provide greater flexibility for commercial launches, launch vehicle PSLV is also designed to carry multiple satellites. Promotional efforts are also undertaken through participation in appropriate exhibitions from time to time in order to create greater awareness.

(b) The data from Indian Remote Sensing Setellites are marketed globally by Antrix which is the commercial arm of Department of Space. Antrix also markets leasing of transponders from INSAT satellites for television and VSAT services providers and is also providing launch and mission support services using ISRO's facilities.

(c) In 2004-05, ISRO through contracts made by Antrix with foreign customers received payments amounting to Rs. 10.54 crores towards launch services on PSLV and Rs. 2.61 crores towards mission support services.

(d) USA, Germany, France, Russia, Japan, Taiwan, China, Myanmar, Algeria, Venezuela, UAE, Iran, Sudan, etc., have evinced interest in using services of CARTOSAT.

Technology transfer technique

1132. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether ISRO has designed and developed a Supersonic Combustion Ramjet—a positive step forward in its research for reduced launch costs, if so, the perspective planning for flight test on integrated SCRAMJET propulsion system;

(b) what is the financial outlay for this proejct for the year 2006 and 2007; and

(c) whether the technology utilized is "all-indigenously develped" or it has been adopted through the technology transfer technique?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) As part of the advanced technology initiative in the area of Air-Breathing propulsion, a series of ground tests on a supersonic combustion ramjet engine have been successfully

completed. During these tests, a stable combustion has been achieved for nealy 7 seconds at supersonic speeds corresponding to an inlet Mach number of 6 (*i.e.* six times the speed of sound); The next step in the development of this engine is a flight test of an integrated SCRAMJET propulsion module comprising of air-intake, combustor and nozzle, in a two stage RH-560 sounding rocket.

(b) For this activity, a sum of Rs. 460 lakhs in 2005-06 and Rs. 896 lakhs in BE 2006-07 have been allocated.

(c) The technology is completely indigenous.

Change in base year to calculate GDP

1133. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to alter the change in base year in calculating the GDP after a gap of ten years to a gap of six years to proejct an impressive GDP growth rate; and

(b) if so, the reaons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) and (b) In the past, National Accounts Statistics were revised decennially using the information on working force from the Population Census. However, in the previous series of national accounts with the base year 1993-94 (introduced in February, 1999), the workforce data from the Quinquennial Employment and Unemployment Survey, 1993-94 conducted by the National sample survey Organisation (NSSO) in its 50th round was used, as it was observed that data on Worker Participation Rate (WPR) as captured by the NSS better than that through the Population Census. In continuation with this practice, the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) introduced the new series of national accounts (base year 1999-2000) using the WPR data available from the next NSS 55th round Quinquennial Employment and Unemployment Servey in 1999-2000. Further, revision of base years of national accounts statistics at shorter intervals of time of about 5 years captures more realistically the structural changes in the economy and is in line with the best statistical practices.